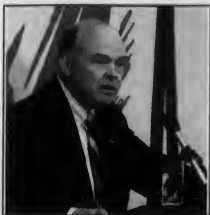




Admired Prof. Not Rehired



Republic of Armenia Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Professor Stanton speaks at the "Ultimate Crime, Ultimate Challenge" human rights and genocide conference in Yerevan, Armenia in April 2005.

By **LAUREN ORSINI**
Staff Writer

Professor Gregory Stanton is the James Farmer Professor in Human Rights, the founder and president of the internationally recognized Genocide Watch program, and a graduate of both Harvard and Yale.

He is also about to lose his job at the University of Mary Washington.

"It's very disappointing to me. My understanding when I took on this position was that it would be regularly renewed and I would continue to work here," Stanton said.

His potential dismissal has upset many students, some of whom began circulating a petition to keep him at the university.

Stanton came to UMW six years ago as a visiting professor. While his contract was supposed to last for one semester, it was extended to three years until the college finally made a position for him as a James Farmer Professor in Human Rights.

He said the position is not on a tenure track, but renewed year to year instead.

"This year, my department chair [Professor Jeffery McClurken of History and American Studies] went to see the dean of faculty [Rosemary Barra] and asked how she viewed my prospects for next year," he said. "She told him, 'definitely negative.'"

▶ See **STANTON**, page 2

Pres. Hample to Undergo Surgery During Break

By **RYAN MARR**
Staff Writer

Following a semester of persistent health issues, President Hample is scheduled to undergo surgery over the break to remove two abdominal hernias.

Hample is not anticipating a leave of absence and intends to be back, in full health, for the spring semester.

"Lately, it's become an annoyance because it's so unpredictable. I'm anxious to get it over with," Hample said.

A recent Patient Information Brochure published by the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endo-

scopic Surgeons (SAGES) listed extreme discomfort coupled with sharp aches and pains, followed eventually by nausea and vomiting as possible ailments resulting from an untreated hernia.

According to Paul Riley, Director of the University's Health Center, hernias are often painless when small and become much more painful as they grow larger. He also noted that many people can go through their entire adult-life with a hernia without ever receiving treatment.

"Most hernia surgeries are routine outpatient procedures. Go in that morning, have your surgery, and go

home that afternoon," Riley said. "Occasionally patients are kept overnight but most healthy people are treated and released."

According to a WebMD.com article, hernias are caused by weaknesses in muscle tissue, coupled with pressure on nearby organs against that weak tissue. These organs begin to form lumps or bulges under the skin which, if left untreated, may cut off their own blood supply and require emergency surgery.

Hample admitted that complications from the twin hernias may have played a role in her decision to cancel several campus events during the semester.

However, according to the SAGES



Emily McAlpine/Bullet

GW Hall Renovations Cause Steps to Close Until Spring

By **ANNE LONGERBEAM**
Staff Writer

Less than a year after about \$1 million was spent renovating George Washington Hall at due to mold growth, major repairs have started again.

According to a campus wide facilities services' e-mail, beginning Friday, Nov. 14 until "further notice," the front steps of George Washington Hall will be closed due to repairs of flooding of the basement. The only exceptions will be on Friday, Dec. 5 and Monday, Jan. 19 for campus events.

Water damage in the basement of GW Hall was primarily caused by the deterioration of the life of the building, according to John Wiltenmuth, associate vice president of facilities services. Many of the original systems, including the exterior basement waterproofing and drainage systems, have deteriorated since the building's original construction during the Great Depression.

Wiltenmuth stated that the current construction budget to repair GW Hall is \$500,000. This project is state-funded, and includes a new generator

for Information Technologies' Systems at the Stafford campus location.

The construction budget also includes landscaping around GW Hall, according to Joni Wilson, Director of Landscape and Grounds.

Several trees and bushes have been cleared in front of GW Hall in order for construction workers to gain access to the basement.

Wilson said that the entire right side of landscaping at GW Hall was already removed earlier in the year, without many people noticing.

Wilson says the university hopes to complete the GW landscaping project before the inauguration of President Judy G. Hample on April 3, 2009.

Assistant Director of user services of the Department of Information Technologies Pam Lowery, whose office located in the basement of GW Hall, described the construction as something people have wanted for years.

"What they're doing now is proactive in order to try to alleviate the problem so that it doesn't continue to happen," Lowery said. "Anytime the area gets a significant amount of rain,

water does come into the building."

Other than the closure of the front steps, no other precautions such as vacating offices will need to take place during the repairs to the basement.

Students' main concern with the repairs to GW Hall is the amount of money spent constantly renovating the space.

Junior Harrison Roberts commented on the efficiency of facilities services.

"I think they should've done a better job with it the first time around," Roberts said. "However, I feel that it is important for us to keep our facilities up to date to prevent any further damages."

Junior Jenna Calautti received the facilities' services e-mail and was surprised.

"I got the e-mail and I was surprised that the stairs were closed," Calautti said. "I didn't think that they would close them for such a long period of time."

Wiltenmuth stated that the repairs to the basement of GW Hall are scheduled for completion over the next several months.



Photo courtesy of umw.edu

brochure, post-operative discomfort is usually restricted to mild or moderate pain, with a majority of patients able to return to normal activities in a short time.

Hample is anticipating only three to four weeks for a recovery period.

"My expectation is that I will be back as strong as ever in January," she said.

Students Violate Housing Codes

By **JONATHAN WIGGINTON**
Staff Writer

Four Mary Washington students who live on Morningside Drive have had Jan. 29, 2009 marked on their calendar ever since their living situation was deemed illegal by the city of Fredericksburg.

The city forbids more than three unrelated people living in a single-family home, and neighbors and local officials said the students were in violation of the law.

According to Fredericksburg law, a family is defined as: "one person or two or more persons related by blood, adoption or marriage, living and cooking together...or a group of not more than three unrelated people." The students' living situation on Morningside does not fall into either of these definitions.

A district court hearing continued the case at a date on Nov. 6.

The Morningside Drive student residents now have until the Jan. 29 hearing to decide which one of them is going to move out.

City officials say this is the first case of its kind that they've ever prosecuted.

Daniel McLaughlin, David Rodriguez, Samuel Shaefer and Tait Keenan, all seniors, have been living together in the rented Morningside house since August 2008. None would comment about their case.

Other students said they sympathized with the four.

"Talk about an awkward situation. I can't imagine trying to decide which one of my roommates had to move out," said one UMW student.

Fredericksburg Police Public Information Officer Natatia Bledsoe said that this all began on August 9, when police responded to a complaint by neighbors about a large party at the students' Morningside

▶ See **HOUSE**, page 9

Faculty Considers Academic Minors

By **SARAH SMITH and ALEX JAFFEE**
Staff Writers

On Wednesday, December 3, the Faculty Senate postponed voting on a motion to implement minor programs at UMW. The motion, proposed by the Academic Affairs Committee, will be revised by the committee before the Senate reconvenes at the start of next semester.

If the motion passes, minors programs will be offered starting in Fall 2010, and will first appear on the tran-

scripts of students graduating in May 2011.

According to the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC), while neither students nor academic departments would be required to participate in minor programs, minors offer various positives for both groups.

"Students desire formal acknowledgement for completing an academic program," the AAC's official proposal stated. This formal recognition would enhance employers' and graduate programs' acknowledgment of student academic achievements.

All other public colleges and universities in Virginia offer minors, as do most private liberal arts colleges. The AAC believes that the addition of minor programs would attract prospective students and keep UMW competitive with its peers.

Minors would also help departments develop programs with different focuses within their disciplines to appeal to a wider range of students. The addition of minors would help to redistribute course enrollment, decreasing the bottleneck effect for classes required for majors.

Academic minors have been proposed in the past, but have sparked significant opposition from departments with few majors that fear the addition of minors.

"The major opposition to minors has come from departments with few graduates," Professor of Business Administration and former AAC President Dan Hubbard said. "They are fearful that minors would reduce the number of majors in their departments, and so put their programs in danger of extinction."

▶ See **MINORS**, page 9

Weekend Weather

From Weather.com

Friday

Partly Cloudy

High: 41
Low: 26

Saturday

Mostly Cloudy

High: 42
Low: 31

Sunday

Scattered Flurries, wind

High: 41
Low: 27

Weekly Events

Kwanza Celebration

Thurs., Dec 4., 6 p.m. Great Hall. Free event presented by the BSA will include a full course meal and performances.

World Aids Week Speaker

Thurs. Dec. 4, 8 p.m. Jepsen 100. A representative from International Justice Mission will speak. Email kconno2@umw.edu for more info.

Stress Free Finals

Dec. 8, 9 & 10, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Great Hall. Each day will host a different stress release activity, as well as snacks and neck massages. Hosted by OSACS and CAPS

Dining Events

Festivals Around the World Holiday Dinner: Wed. Dec. 3, 4-8 p.m. Seacobeck

Free Midnight Breakfast: Mon., Dec. 8, 11 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Seacobeck. Prizes, music and free breakfast food.

Bookstore Textbook Buy-Back

Dec. 5th: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Dec. 8th-11th: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Dec. 12th: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Student ID Required! Great Hall.

Events courtesy of OSACS. If you would like your event listed, contact The Bulletin at newsxcrew@gmail.com. Send a flyer image if possible

Want to get involved? Come to a staff meeting on Sunday at 8 p.m. in the Bulletin office, located in the lower-level of Seacobeck, or contact newsxcrew@gmail.com

Outside the Fence



By HEATHER BRADY
News Editor

Regional

The family of 24-year-old Chinese deliveryman Yong Hui Zhang, who was abducted and murdered in July of this year, sold their restaurant, the China Express, to Chuan Fu Zhang. As of Nov. 8, the restaurant, now called Hunan Taste, became official property of Chuan Zhang, who is not related to the previous owner's family. Chuan Zhang said that Yong Zhang's father, the previous owner, told him he didn't want to own a restaurant in the city where his son was killed. Authorities said Tuesday that the family has moved away, but the exact location is unclear. In October, 36-year-old Marcey White pleaded guilty in Fredericksburg Circuit Court to six charges, including abduction and carjacking. Police say that White's boyfriend, Jermaine Lamonte Montgomery is suspected in the stabbing that resulted in the death of Zhang. (The Free Lance-Star, Dec. 2; www.fredericksburg.com)

American Studies Professor Not Rehired for Fall

Professor Stanton, the James Farmer Professor of Human Rights, has degrees from Oberlin College, Harvard Divinity School, Yale Law School, and a Doctorate in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Chicago and is the founder and president of Genocide Watch.

STANTON, page 1

When a Bulletin reporter asked Professor Jeffrey McClurken for confirmation, he said that only Dean Barra had the authority to discuss Stanton's position.

Dean Barra said she was surprised to see that this was an issue.

"The James Farmer Professor position is originally a rotating type of position. There was no guarantee that he would be here for multiple years," Barra said. "We've extended Professor Stanton's time here for a number of reasons, but now we're opening the position to bring other individuals to campus to talk about different issues in human rights."

Barra said that while she does not yet have a replacement for Stanton, she is currently searching for potential applicants.

Stanton said he thinks that he might lose his position because the school is going in another direction under an initiative led by former President Frawley.

"Unfortunately, Frawley had asked a committee led by Professor [Craig] Vasey to write a proposal for a new human rights center that is 'completely at odds' with our current program. In my opinion, the proposal is completely unfeasible because of the budget crunch," Stanton said.

"However, I wrote a proposal as well for a program called the James Farmer Center for Human Rights, where we'd create a minor in human rights using resources we already have. We already have plenty of courses about the subject," he said.

Stanton also said that he does not think the budget crunch has anything to do with his position. This was confirmed by Dean Barra.

Students were angry to hear about Stanton's release. A Facebook group titled "Petition to Keep Dr. Stanton at UMW" already has over 150 student members. Junior Farrah Tek is one of the group administrators as well as the author of the petition.

"Mine and a lot of students' reaction to Dr. Stanton not being invited

back is mixed feelings of frustration, sadness, and disappointment," she said. "We are all [in] disbelief at the University's decision to not offer such a more-than-qualified man tenure here. Because of our dedication to him, many of us have written personal letters to Dr. Hample asking her to reconsider that decision and I've organized a petition."

Tek said that the petition is currently in the American Studies Office in Monroe and can be signed by anyone interested.

Junior and petition signer Amanda Gardner said that Stanton is "amazing."

"He's my inspiration for what I want to do in my life - to go into the Peace Corps and then study international law so I can try to fix the problems we've discussed in class. He's been a very important part in my development as a student and a person," she said.

Fellow movement member and junior Kevin Kallmyer agrees.

"Dr. Stanton is one of the most accomplished professors at UMW - he's internationally recognized. To throw [his position] away would be extremely short-sighted," he said.

Stanton said he found out about the student movement last Sunday.

"My son told me yesterday, 'Do you realize there's a petition on Facebook for you?' and I said, 'My God, I did not.' I think it's extremely gratifying that my students value me as much as I value them," he said.

But Stanton remains optimistic.

"This is the third time they've told Barra not to renew my position, but there's always been some kind of intervention," he said. "I don't have many reasons to think that President Hample would make this move."

Stanton said he has a meeting with President Judy Hample next week.

"I made an appointment with her a month ago to tell her about my ideas for the Human Rights program. That will still be my main subject, but now that this is out, I can't help but say something about it," he said.

National

The rising cost of college threatens to put higher education out of reach for most Americans, according to the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education's annual report. The report found that college tuition fees increased 439 percent from 1982 to 2007, while median family income rose 147 percent. Student borrowing has more than doubled in the past decade, and on average students from lower-income families get smaller grants from the colleges they attend than students from more affluent backgrounds. "If we go on this way for another 25 years, we won't have an affordable system of higher education," said Patrick Callan, president of the center. "When we come out of the recession, we're really going to be in jeopardy, because the educational gap between our work force and the rest of the world will make it very hard to be competitive." (The New York Times, Dec. 3; www.nytimes.com)

Global

On Tuesday, American and Indian authorities said it is likely that militants inside Pakistan directed the terrorist attacks in Mumbai. Indian officials say they have identified three or four of the attack's masterminds, putting pressure on Pakistan to act against them. The Bush administration increased diplomatic efforts to diffuse tensions between India and Pakistan over the attacks. Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is being dispatched to the region. He will join Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who arrived in New Delhi on Nov. 26th, in issuing warnings to the government of Pakistan to crack down on militant groups near the country's borders with Indian-administered Kashmir and with Afghanistan, according to top American aides. Two American officials said that the U.S. had warned India in mid-October of possible terrorist attacks, echoing other general alerts this year by India's intelligence agency and raising questions about the adequacy of India's counterterrorism measures. (The New York Times, Dec. 2; www.nytimes.com)

Security Cameras to be Installed in Parking Garage

By ANDREA NEALON and LAUREN ORSINI
Staff Writers

Two months after a UMW sophomore was sexually assaulted in the parking deck, police still have not made any arrests.

However, UMW police have been increasing security measures around campus. A \$30,000 chain link fence was installed around the bottom of the parking deck and will be adding two security cameras.

Rick Hurley, executive vice president for administration and finance, reported at the Board of Visitor's meeting Friday, November 14 that more security guards have also been hired to patrol the parking deck from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., ensuring that at least two guards will be on duty at all times.

"Assuming we can move forward, I think there will be cameras at the entrances and exits to the deck," Hurley said. "The cost of purchasing and installing cameras is being determined. We may also include the stairwells. They will not be monitored on a continual basis; they would be put in place as a deterrent and to help us in an 'after the fact' incident should one occur."

He said that cameras will be installed at a date later to be determined. The assailant is suspected to be at large. He is described as a white male between 20-24 years of age and 5 feet 5 inches tall, with light green eyes, light-colored "buzz" styled hair and a "tribal" tattoo on his upper left arm. His police sketch is posted in numerous campus buildings.

Senior Lindsay McClelland says that now she avoids being on her cell phone or listening to an iPod while walking on campus.

"I've also noticed and made mental notes of where all the blue lights are on campus," said McClelland. "Hearing about the sexual assaults has made me far more aware when I am alone."

The assault, which took place at 2 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 3 on the south end of the third level of the UMW parking

deck, led to an offer of \$10,000 from an anonymous donor independent of the University.

However, without information leading to the successful arrest and conviction of the assailant, the reward remains unclaimed.

Hurley confirmed that the investigation is still ongoing.

He said the Fredericksburg Police Department has assigned a detective to assist UMW police in the investigation.

However, Natatia Bledsoe, spokesperson for the Fredericksburg Police Department, said that this is not entirely true.

"They [Fredericksburg Police] were involved to the extent that, at Mary Washington's request, we did the forensic testing," said Bledsoe. "But that was the limit of our involvement. And so we just were involved in the collection of forensic evidence. All findings, of course, were forwarded to Mary Washington."

Hurley said he had no new information on Fredericksburg Police involvement when interviewed by the Bulletin.

He said that the accumulation of new information will be gradual. "We understand the need to be patient as evidence is processed and multiple leads explored but believe the appropriate amount of resources are being devoted to the case," said Hurley.

The main police department working on the case is the UMW Police. According to Susan Knick, the assistant vice president for public safety and community services, the police department is qualified to investigate the case.

"All UMW Police are certified police in accordance with the requirements of the Commonwealth of Virginia," she said. "This includes training in investigative police work."

Knick and Hurley said that the Virginia State Police and the FBI are also assisting with this case, though they did not specify how and to what extent.

"With the able assistance of the Vir-

See SECURITY, page 9

Correction:

The front page photo of the Taste of Asia event in the Nov. 20 issue was taken by Eddie Kauffman.

Viewpoints

Bio-fuels: Obama Needs Alternatives

To push America towards a greener future, President Obama plans to subsidize the production of corn-based ethanol fuel.

The new fuel is supposed to stop our dependence on foreign oil, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create jobs in the Midwest. Those claims are, at best, ambitious.

For starters, to produce corn-based ethanol, one must first cultivate, harvest, ferment, and distill corn, which requires burning fossil fuels.

Bio-fuels are fossil fuel alternatives that use naturally-occurring substances to make combustible material. High-grade ethanol is the most effective alternative to gasoline for its high combustibility and reduced greenhouse gas emission. The environmental problems with using ethanol are almost as great as those of gasoline.

An Oct. 7 *New York Times* article cites a United Nations study that concluded that corn-based ethanol has already contributed to the rising cost of food and growing hunger in poor countries. The study stated that the subsidies on bio-fuel make growing corn for ethanol more profitable to farmers, which has made food shortages worse.

Simon Upton, director of the Global Subsidies Initiative, says in an article on the GSI web page that bio-fuel subsidies are often poorly constructed and include no consideration of possible environmental impacts.

The article quotes Upton saying, "All indications are that subsidies are being piled on top of one another without policy makers having a clear idea of their potential impact on the environment and the economy. Yet the potential for waste on a grand scale and some spectacularly perverse environmental outcomes is large."

To make enough ethanol to quench the gas crisis, you would need a whole lot of fossil fuels, which negates the entire reason to make

ethanol in the first place. According to environmental website mongabay.com using data from a survey by the Swiss, bio-fuels may indeed be worse for the planet than traditional fossil fuels.

The website cites a study by the Swiss government that found that the cultivation of crops used in the production of bio-fuels is horrible for the environment.

Not only do the fuels themselves still release trace amounts of greenhouse gasses, they contribute to deforestation to build fuel plantations, and require enormous amounts of water and fertilizer.

The logistical and environmental troubles, however, are not the only negative aspects of corn-based ethanol production. Production of the fuel would drive the price of food through the roof. With a planet full of starving people already, the planned bio-fuel becomes sinister.

As president, Obama will try to include corn-based ethanol into our nation's fuel supply as soon as possible. Coupled to that, he will try to expand locally-owned growers and refiners of bio-fuels to bolster small farms.

Instead of focusing on subsidizing the use of food crops for fuel, we should stop and re-evaluate the situation. Corn is not the only way to make bio-fuels a viable option for the future.

The Swiss study suggests the use of plants like algae and fast-growing weeds as better options for bio-fuel manufacturing. These plants are more easily cultivated, require far less energy to produce, and would not contribute to global hunger.

Obama's goals are noble, but his suggested methods are misguided. Curtailing a fuel crisis in America at the cost of the rest of the world and our corn supply is not the correct answer. If America is going to look like anything but a consumerist monster to the rest of the world, it needs to re-think the bio-fuel answer. As a country, we need to stop and smell the algae.

Staff Editorial

Social Security Is a College-Aged Issue

BY MEREDITH DOWNES
Guest Columnist

The year is 2008. You are in college. Free as a bird, except for the occasional term paper or exam. Your worries consist of the ever-challenging decision of what movie *Cheap Seats* is showing or what sports game to attend.

Now let's fast-forward several years. You have engaged yourself in a career that has spanned most of your lifetime, raised a family and are now starting to embark upon retirement. Enter the benefits you have been promised through Social Security. But wait, what would happen if the United States government ran out of their proposed funds and you and your loved ones were left in a tightened financial situation? What if you did not receive adequate benefits to use in your retirement despite years in the workforce?

You may be thinking, "Why should I care? This issue will not affect me in the near future." My suggestion to you is to start caring, because it is your future that is endangered.

The Social Security sector of the government is the largest government program in the world and provides an incomparable amount of financial benefits to Americans. But with the "baby boomer" generation representing what may be the largest aging generation to need financial assistance in history, the future of Social Security funding looks dim. According to an October 2008 article in *Money* magazine, with so many Americans heading into retirement soon, "benefits will exceed revenue, and Social Security will have to draw on [the] trust fund." But experts estimate that by 2041 the trust fund will be dried up.

Not only do Social Security benefits support retirees and the elderly, they also support those who are disabled, widowed or hold significantly lower lifetime earnings. For many elderly widows whose largest portion of wealth comes from Social Security, "poverty rates run as high as 40 percent," according to a policy brief put out by the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. In addition, the disabled and their families are more vulnerable financially than the general population, often suffering an approximate

30 percent drop in living standards.

Now are you beginning to see the big, scary future if something is not changed? With a new presidential term coming just around the corner, now is the perfect opportunity to develop a plan for improvement. There are already many suggestions for reform in the works.

Future beneficiaries could receive adequate savings, without having a burden posed upon them from previous recipients. The Heritage Foundation suggested in 2004 developing nest eggs, so that upon retirement, individuals could utilize these accounts to increase monthly income. They could also be reserved for an emergency or left to family members. In addition, the Brookings Institution has predicted that the national budget deficit would be eliminated through adjustment of inflation and taxes, and therefore would not be touched by Social Security. The government could also raise the survivor benefit in order to improve coverage for widows and ensure a plan similar to what would have been the couple's previously combined benefits. Racial and ethnic barriers could dissipate so as not to affect future earnings.

And so you see, this topic is a very prominent issue today because of the possibility that in our lifetimes the funding for Social Security will be expended. I urge you to consider what your future would be like without this stipend from the government, and what our country would look like if millions of Americans were left struggling in years to come.

You too could be one of these Americans. What will you do about it?

Meredith Downes is a freshman.

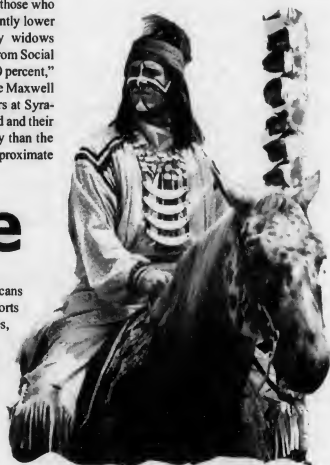


photo courtesy of www.stpetetimes.com

Mascots Not Offensive

BY STEFANIE ROCHE
Guest Columnist

When most people hear the name the Washington Redskins, various sporting terms come to mind: Clinton Portis, Sunday Night Football, etc.

However, since the 1960s, the concept of racial discrimination has been added to the list.

As a community we understand racism is a sensitive topic, and have a responsibility to accurately represent a race in popular culture. Therefore, some people argue that a university or a professional sports team's use of Native Americans for a mascot is discriminatory. I however, respectfully disagree.

Growing up in a family in which boys outnumber girls, sporting events dominate our evenings and family moods often parallel the performance of our favorite teams.

After 21 years of avid sports dedication, I understand a team's name to represent their identity with no racial implications. But not everyone shares my view.

During the 1960s the National Congress of American Indians launched a campaign against media images considered negative representations of their people. Although initially focused on television and cartoon representation, the shift was made to athletics.

With terms such as Apache, Savage and Indian used in sports, is it fathomable to think an institution would choose a symbol that would label the school as racist?

No would be my response, and if interpreted as offensive, I don't think that was the intention.

It is true that franchises such as the Atlanta Braves, Cleveland Indians and Florida State Seminoles chose their teams' mascots prior to 1960, but it is unfair to say they chose them out of unconscious racism.

A team's mascot is part of its identity. The more success a team has, the more publicity their logo receives and does not that increase diversity by default?

The National Congress of American Indians disagree, claiming these symbols are derogatory and offensive rather than increasing awareness.

If that is the case, it is important to acknowledge the other areas where Native American images and names are used.

Various modes of transportation rely on these names as well. Why is that acceptable when sports teams are not?

In an Associated Press article, Mohawk Chief Jacques Boucherie responded to the idea of names such as "Brave, Chiefs and Apache" as insulting to Native Americans. He offers the viewpoint of a Native American living in California.

"To have a car named after Chief Pontiac must have him rolling in his grave," Boucherie said. How about Indian motorcycles? You straddle it and ride it. Now that's GOT to be derogatory! How about Apache helicopters? That's a weapon of destruction, so doesn't it indicate that Apaches are destructive?"

Boucherie does not feel that using Native American names as mascots is disrespectful.

"Anything that brings more Native culture to the forefront is OK by me," said Boucherie. "If a college team calls itself The Mohawks, I'm damn proud that they would choose my people to be the symbol of their team."

Boucherie is not the only Native American to weigh in on the controversy. According to *Sports Illustrated* 83 percent of Native Americans who responded to a poll, feel pro-sports should not stop using Indian nicknames, characters, symbols and mascots.

What most people, Native American or not, fail to understand is that if legislation is passed outlawing culture-offensive mascots any logo could be forced to change. For example, if animal rights get involved teams such as the Bears, Eagles and Falcons may need to change too.

Concern over the representation of Native Americans has not gone ignored. There are several teams who have changed their names in response to racism. The Syracuse Orangemen became the Syracuse Orange, St. John's University Red Men became the Red Storm and the Eastern Michigan Hurons became the Eagles.

If a school decides to change their mascot on their own I think that is commendable. I do not feel that leagues should force them to, but rather encourage them to follow the example of the Florida State Seminoles.

In 1972 leaders of the Seminole Tribe in Florida attended a Florida State University basketball game and expressed concern with the depiction of their people by the school's mascots. Due to the unique relationship that developed between the University and the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the mascot remains in tact to this day.

NCAA Senior Vice President Bernard Franklin said,

"The decision of a namesake sovereign tribe, regarding when and how its name and imagery can be used, must be respected even when others may not agree," said Franklin.

The NCAA review board voted in favor to allow the Seminole name to remain in August 2005 because the Seminole Tribe of Florida officially sanctions the Seminole as the University's nickname.

The Seminole compromise illustrates another option to consider before stripping a school of its namesake.

Native Americans are not the only group who are represented by negative stereotypes.

The Notre Dame Fighting Irish has a scrappy leprechaun as their image, and the Irish were once on a marginalized group of people in the United States.

The University of Louisiana's Ragin' Cajuns admits their mascot is based on a term considered slang for the people who live in the area.

I feel schools that use names and images of Native Americans are proud of who they represent. Perhaps rather than changing the symbols and names of universities we need to change the way we view ourselves and other people.

Stefanie Roche is a senior

the
Bulletin

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Letter and Editorial Policy

The Bulletin is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them.

Letters should be submitted the Monday before publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and columns should not exceed 700 words.

We will not publish anonymous submissions. Letters must include a phone number and address for purposes of verification. They can be mailed to the Bulletin at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacoast Hall or sent to our e-mail at umwbulet@gmail.com.

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff. Contact the Bulletin at 540-654-1133.

Viewpoints

Virginity: A One-Time Thing for a Reason?

I am an incredibly lazy person. Of the extracurriculars I joined as a freshman, I would consider myself still active in about two and a half of them, this newspaper being the half. Tour guiding, volunteer work, hall council, and even my weak representation as a club member in various school organizations, have all disintegrated, particularly as my traveling time has increased over the years.

Along with clinging to the *Bullet* through my contribution in "Sexclamations," I have participated in "The Vagina Monologues" for the past three years of my college experience, with the intention of acting in it this year as well.

No matter how many times I have been in this one part where two girls read the memoirs of a young girl whose tribe was taken over by a foreign militia. She describes her experiences of genital mutilation, the pain of being raped repeatedly, and how she transformed as a woman from an optimistic youth to a self-loathing, aged creature.

According to World Health Organization between 100 and 140 million women live with the consequences of genital mutilation today. Female Genital Mutilation, or FGM, can range from a number of various operations; Sewing up the vulva so that there is only a small hole left for urination and menstruation; partial to complete removal of the clitoris (about the same as removing the penis, balls and all); pricking, piercing, incising, scraping and cauterizing the genital area without the consent of the female.

And the pain doesn't just stop from there. The consequences can come up years later with the presence of painful cysts, the inability to birth naturally, UTIs and repetition of surgeries in order to keep the woman's special area in check.

Now you may be reading this and thinking "What's up her butt this week? Where's the funny article about cat fetishes or the problems with ribbed condoms?"

Well, the truth of the matter is that this week I am disgusted with our privileged society this week. A friend of mine sent me an article on the newfound fad for forty-something women who enjoy providing their husbands with the gift of "revirginization,"

or hymen surgery in which the woman gets it stitched back up so that her husband can break it all over again, like they would have as if it were their first time.

The article talks with one woman who decided to get revirginized for her anniversary. The lady who went through this stupid and painful procedure paid \$5,000 to get it stitched up all over again. The article (from the *New York Times*, no less) then proceeds to state that the woman and her husband had an amazing Valentine weekend (yeah, they got married on Valentine's Day, how original) and they now tell all of their friends to try the surgery out for themselves.

I mean, really? Come on! Losing your virginity is hard enough the first time but to have a needle go down there in order to give a little kink in the bedroom for one and only

one night seems not only excessive to me but just down right wasteful. There are hundreds upon thousands of women out there who feel obligated to go through a similar painful surgery in order to bleed on their wedding nights and maintain their honor as a virgin (the hymen rips for a number of reasons, whether its sex, exercise, or tampon insertion).

Now it's becoming the hot new thing for older women to put spice in their sex life. Come on ladies! There are so many other paths you can take that don't involve any form of genital surgery. New positions, romantic getaways, costumes, sex toys; the list goes on and on!

Not to mention the wonder of Kegel exercises, which involve the contraction and relaxation of the pelvic floor in order to strengthen the penis or tighten the vagina muscles to keep the cavity we females have a bit stronger and smaller.

I'm sorry, but there is no way that I can consider a hymen surgery as a way to tell my significant other that I love them. Sure there's the give and take that every relationship must go through, but I am not about to roll on my back to get stitched up and have not only my virginity taken away again but also a good amount of my hard-earned money. This is why I never trust fads. Or any form of genital surgery.

Sexclamations
By KJ Adler,
Staff Writer

Britney Can Spear Sympathy in Us All

Along with releasing a new album, Britney Spears turned 27 years old on Tuesday. Besides being seven years older than I am, the superstar has also sold 83 million records, created three fragrances and made out with Madonna on national television.

And I can totally relate to her.

Granted, writing a weekly column in my college newspaper hasn't made me famous enough to be stalked by paparazzi on campus walk—Okay, being a *Bullet* columnist hasn't even made me famous enough to make the "Overheard at UMW" Facebook group.

It is not Britney's celebrity that I relate to, but her vulnerability.

I grew up with Britney. Starting with a dance to "Baby One More Time" in the 5th grade talent show, I was a loyal Britfan all throughout middle school, climaxing to seeing her "live" in concert, with opening act P. Diddy. (I believe this is the third Susan-nigan that I've mentioned that concert...this semester.)

Her simpleton lyrics and synthesized hooks spoke to my body-glittered soul. I wasn't a girl back then, and I'm still not yet a woman.

As I entered high school and college, Britney went from being America's sweetheart to spiraling down into a Michael Jackson-esque realm of sex, drugs and mental instability.

I ripped down the Britney posters in my bed room, and hid her music deep in my iPod to protect my indie-snob reputation.

But in the back of my mind, I still had faith in my bubblegum goddess, even after she married K-Fed.

In "For the Record," a documentary about the circus that is Britney's life that aired on MTV Sunday night, the mother-of-two poured her heart out on camera, reflecting on fame, family and fake eyelashes. The tell-all was made to kick-off her "comeback," and reintro-

duce her to the world as a mentally-sound, articulate MILF.

In one particularly heart-breaking moment, Britney compares her life in the limelight to being in prison:

"There's no excitement, there's no passion. I have really good days, and then I have bad days. Even when you go to jail you know there's a time when you're gonna get out. But in this situation, it's never ending. It's like Groundhog Day every day."

People will always be fascinated with Britney Spears, whether she's a train wreck or temporarily reformed by Kabbalah.

You can't help but feel sorry for her.

I may not have two kids with double names, but what I've dealt with in adolescence hasn't been completely different from some of Britney's turmoil: 18-hour-days, nasty rumors and ill-placed hair extensions.

While it was Facebook and not *People* magazine that announced my break-up, it was still somewhat public.

Maybe Britney's just like

me.

If Britney can make it through rehab, custody battles and panty-less limo rides, I can make it through finals week.

Ms. Spears will be performing in DC next March, and even though P. Diddy won't be opening, I'm buying a \$90 nosebleed ticket. Together, Brit and I will be celebrating the trials we've overcome, with lots of lip-synching and pyrotechnics.

2009 is weeks away, and Britney shared her new years' resolutions in the latest issue of *Glamour* magazine:

"I would like to stop worrying so much, because I worry all the time. And to learn how to be happier, just in general. I have to take things not so seriously. And to stop biting my nails!"

Ya know what Britney? Me too.



Susannigans
By Susannah Clark,
Associate Editor

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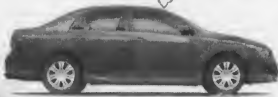
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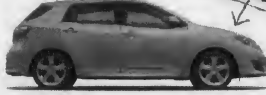


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Entertainment

HBO Hit 'Entourage' Keeps Getting Better

By **MISSAK ARTINIAN**
Staff Writer

"Entourage" is without doubt the best show on television, at least since "Seinfeld" ended its nine-season run in 1998. Those who argue otherwise typically fall under one of two categories: those who have not seen "Entourage" because they don't have HBO, and those who find more pleasure watching reality television.

My advice to those who fall under the former category: get the seasonal DVDs of "Entourage," at the very least. To those who fall under the latter category: get better taste, at the very most.

Why "Entourage" is so exceptional is partly due to its cast of distinct and multi-faceted characters, and furthermore, their complex relationships with one another. There's just something intriguing about a show following the life of a rising star, Vincent Chase, and his entourage of inseparable friends.

There's Eric Murphy, Vince's short but fierce manager, for example, who packs a punch stronger than the size of his fist would suggest. Then there's Johnny Drama, Vince's half-brother, who happens to be a television star and yet falls under the shadow of his more popular film star brother. And of course there's Turtle, the amiable driver who serves the all-important purpose of having fun, while making sure his boys come along for the ride.

Jeremy Piven, who plays the character Ari Gold—Vince's temperamental and compulsive agent—deserves special mention. Piven has already earned three Emmy Awards for his inspired performance as Ari, and is well on his way to win another.

Every character serves their own important function in the show, contributing their own unique persona through their conversations, comebacks and jokes. There are seldom scenes in which the entourage is not together or in touch in some way. They all support Vince when he's successful, stand by him when times are tough and enjoy all the fruits that come with knowing Vince—the actor who starred in James Cameron's "Aqua Man," the highest grossing movie of all time.

The show also shines because of its brilliant writing. Great shows require superb writers. If the writing is poor, it doesn't matter whether the direction, performances, music, etc. are top notch. The show will undoubtedly fail.

What the writers of "Entourage" have successfully done is create a world that idealizes Hollywood with its excessive sex, late-night parties and occasional drug use, and yet, despite its over-exaggeration, it's still very believable.

We believe that Vince and his entourage can be real. This is mostly due to references to real players in the film industry and also to their guest appearances. Those who have made an appearance: Scarlett Johansson, Brooke Shields, Mandy Moore, Seth Green, and James Woods, just to name a few.

This believable world is also reinforced by authentic, occasionally witty and always smart dialogue. In one of many memorable exchanges between Eric and Ari, for example, Eric Complains to Ari about Vince's unhappiness. Ari's response: "Of course he's not happy. Nobody's happy in this town except for the losers. Look at me. I'm miserable. That's why I'm rich."

In fact, the dialogue's quality is so good, I'd go as far as to say that it rivals a lot of character-driven indie films. Plus, because the show is on HBO, the writers are free to write explicit material that further adds to the believability of the world while never going too overboard.

The latest season of the show, season five, is just as compelling and exciting as the four seasons before it. It primarily revolves around the failure of Vince's latest movie, "Medellin," which is ripped apart by critics, including Richard Roeper, and goes straight to DVD. This embarrassing failure introduces unexpected challenges for Vince as the conflict escalates and Vince has a tough time finding work.

Evidently, the famous saying in Hollywood is painfully true in Vince's case: "You're only as good as your last movie."

Drama, on the other hand, continues to enjoy the commercial success of his latest show, finally gaining the stardom, or "victory," as he would say, that he's yearned for so long.

Turtle also enjoys personal success and makes a surprising connection with Jamie Lynn Sigler from "The Sopranos." It seems that this relationship may actually last, considering that he reveals his real name to her, to the satisfaction of the show's fans. Not even his best friends know this titillating information.

And meanwhile, Eric and Ari try vigorously to land Vincent a job. They succeed with a movie

called Smoke Jumpers after a whole slew of trials, tribulations and favors, but the film's director clashes with Vince. The film ultimately goes over-budget and gets cancelled, and Vincent is back to where he started: jobless.

All of these events build up to the season's finale, which was a highlight in its presentation, but a disappointment in its conclusion.

It was a breath of fresh air to see the boys go back to their hometown, Queens, NY, where we learn some new stuff about each of the characters' back-stories. It was interesting to finally see the neighborhood that the boys grew up in, reminding us that they've been friends since childhood who, despite their glamorous lives in Hollywood, still came from a very modest, if not poor, upbringing.

This fish out of water (or perhaps fish back in the water) situation also provided some much needed comical relief in the midst of Vince's uncertain and dire circumstances. One scene in the season finale shows Turtle lying on his bed having phone sex with his new girlfriend. Meanwhile, his mother, who's eavesdropping, unexpectedly barges in on the conversation: "Turtle. Who are you talking to like that in my house? Your father would roll over in his grave!"

The season finale also shows an emotional Vincent at his lowest point. In a fit of rage over his career's failure, he throws Eric's cell phone to the wall, a reaction that we're not accustomed to seeing from Vince. He's not as carefree as we think



Image courtesy of wordpress.com

he is after all. Vincent, in the most climactic point of the whole season, is forced to fire Eric, his childhood friend turned manager.

The boys separate a bit from each other as Johnny invests in a bar with his old-time pal, Turtle focuses on his relationship with Jamie, and Eric continues without Vince, managing another one of his clients.

However, despite all of this encouraging development, I was a bit disappointed because the conflict was resolved at the end way too quickly. I don't want to spoil what happens, but let's just say that season six won't be as interesting as it could have been if the conflicts weren't resolved so soon and the entire season had ended somewhere near the point where Vince fired Eric.

Although "Entourage" and "Seinfeld" are two different genres, one a comedic drama, the other a sitcom, both parallel each other with their superb quality of writing and likeability of characters. If Seinfeld was the best show of the 20th century, contenders for best show of the 21st century face some serious competition from "Entourage."

Top 5 Ways to Relieve Final Exam Stress

By **LONDON JAMES**
Staff Writer

Well, the time has come. Your blood pressure has risen considerably and it's not from the extra salt Seabecore puts on their food to try and make it taste like real food.

Yes, I am talking about Satan's little gift to students...exams. But fear not, for I am here to show you five easy ways that you can avoid stress and come out of exams still breathing somewhat regularly.

5. Take up Yoga.

Yoga has been scientifically proven to reduce stress and promote a healthy mind, body and soul. Taking a little time out of your day to meditate will not only ease your mind, but will also help you begin to discover your inner consciousness, which leads me to my next survival tip.

4. Discover Nirvana.

Meditate a little, say "Om", drift subconsciously around the clouds and the universe and you are all set. In Nirvana there are no exams, but I am pretty sure Jerry Garcia and Gandhi hang out there every once in awhile. Best of all, Nirvana is free and it lasts you a lifetime and another lifetime and another lifetime.

3. Eat cookie dough ice cream.

Nothing really lifts one's spirits more than sitting down to a nice chick flick with a big tub of cookie dough ice cream. Guy or girl alike it does not take a debilitating break up to constitute a night in front of the tube while consuming and exorcising amount of yummy, delicious, fattening, stress-relieving calories. Not only does eating cookie dough ice cream reduce your stress, but if you eat enough raw eggs maybe you will get salmonella and then you will have a legitimate reason

to postpone your exams. Avoiding stress is all about thinking long-term.

2. Break Something.

Nothing gets one pumped as much as showcasing their amazing might and strength. It only takes a short walk to McDonald's to buy a happy meal and get that prized item of destruction: the toy. Taking out your anger on a poor, defenseless little princess or racecar toy is just the boost in self-confidence one might need to remind themselves that they are all that and a bag of chips. So, take out your frustration and let your stress shatter into a million pieces on the pavement. It's a metaphor of getting rid of your stress...get it?

1. Quit school.

This is the ultimate way to avoid stress associated with exams. If the stress is ultimately too overwhelming, just take out the heart. Without

school there are no professors, no deadlines, and no exams. Basically, there is no problem. However, there is the whole I-am-going-to-be-working-at-a-fast-food-joint-for-the-rest-of-my-life-making minimum-wage-and-spitting-in-people's-hamburgers-because-they-treat-me-like-crap thing, but hey, at least Burger King does not have midterms or final exams.

Who knows, maybe they actually have very good part-time benefits, you don't know until you try. You may think that this is going a bit far, but how serious are you about getting rid of your stress? Dire times call for dire choices with ultimately dire consequences, but if your stress is gone that is really the ultimate goal.

With this small bit of survival and stress-relieving tips there is no reason that every one of you on campus should not be completely stress (or enrollment) free during the upcoming exams.

Pop Rockers Ra Ra Riot to Play Fredericksburg All Ages

Band Featured in 'Rolling Stone' to Play Third Floor

By **TRICIA CALLAHAN**
Staff Writer

"Ra Ra Riot" is coming to Fredericksburg.

Consider yourself. The rock band from Syracuse, N.Y. will be at The Third Floor Dec. 9, along with Princeton and Carlos I'm Pregnant.

Ra Ra Riot is made up of vocalist Wes Miles, bassist Mathieu Santos, guitarist Milo Bonacci, cellist Alexandra Lawn and violinist Rebecca Zeller.

"I met Milo in an electronic music class, and I had known Allie from orchestra and other classical music ventures. Milo and Mat had played a show together once...we all came together to play music," Zeller said.

Zeller refers to the drowning accident that killed former drummer John Ryan Pike when talk-

ing about the message Ra Ra Riot hopes to convey through their latest album "The Rhumb Line."

It was posted on the bands official website (rarariot.com) that they felt "Lucky to have known him" and went on further to explain what a profound effect he had on them as people, friend, and musicians.

They continued to play after the unimaginable tragedy and since been deemed by *Spin* magazine as "one of the best young bands we've heard in a really long time."

They are known specifically for their hit singles "Each Year" and "Dying is fine," which are featured on their 2007 EP there are many other songs that should not be left untuned.

Sure to be crowd pleasers at the show is the song "Can Tell." The lyrics captivate the confusion

Come check out Ra Ra Riot at the Third Floor, 810 Caroline Street on Sunday. Doors at 7p.m., tickets \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door. Tickets are available at Apple Music downtown.



Image courtesy of indierockcafe.com

of a early relationship: "Or what was that you said? Would you let me know? 'Cause I can't read your mind'."

Drag yourself away from studying for finals on Sunday night and come enjoy the show.

Entertainment

Performing Arts Club Holds Annual 'Big Show'

By LONDON JAMES
Staff Writer

The Performing Arts Club's (PAC) Fall Big Show was more than a big hit on campus last weekend. On Saturday, Nov. 22nd at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday Nov. 23rd at 2 p.m. in Dodd Auditorium, both performances rocked the very foundations of George Washington Hall.

"I thought it went amazing, and I think it is one of the strongest shows we've had in a long time," said PAC President Alex Lindemann. "The choreography explored new movement and took new risks while other pieces were fun and uplifting."

The show, called "Eugenius," marks the 10th anniversary of the passing of acclaimed MWC professor Eugene A. Roscoe. Both shows were dedicated to his memory. When there was still a dance major at Mary Washington, Roscoe led the Dance Company and created a cohesive and superior functioning dance program for the school.

Every Fall Big Show since his passing has been dedicated to his "genius" and through PAC the dancers hope to keep his memory alive.

The show consisted of 14 pieces and was a firestorm of primal energy and sensual, poetic beauty fused together into a smooth and cohesive masterpiece. It was dance at its best, to say the very least.

Of the 14 pieces, there were a few that stood out to entice the mind and showcase the incredibly underestimated talent of Mary Washington's dance program.

The third performance of the program, set to Hellogoodbye's "I Saw it on Your Keyboard," was a high-energy techno explosion of 80s jazzercise ballet. There was no limit to the versatility of the piece, which climaxed when the lights went down on stage and the dancers, adorned with glow sticks and glow bands, came out and finished the piece in electric splendor.

However, despite the magnificence of the glow sticks, nothing could prepare the audience for the seventh piece of the show.

Set to Pink Floyd's "I'm Going to Cut You Into

Little Pieces," 16 dancers were divided into two groups: the Goodies (wearing white) and the Baddies (wearing black). It was by far the most complex production of the night.

The piece began by covering the entire stage with thick layers of fog while the opening chords of Pink Floyd hit the ears of the audience. The entire piece was a constant battle of black and white, Goodies and Baddies, and raw tribal power that combined samurai moves with vicious energy.

As the dancers continued to paint this disturbingly beautiful and raw piece onstage, the demonic voices of Pink Floyd in the background took the audience into a creepy, mesmerizing trance.

It was like an acid trip for the eyes and PAC truly outdid themselves. It was genius and poetry, much like Pink Floyd.

After the Pink Floyd performance, the show took a quick intermission and when they came back, PAC had a surprise that nobody saw coming.

Lindemann formally presented a check for \$700 to Kathy Anderson from the Rappahannock Council on Domestic Violence. PAC raised the money completely on their own and wanted to give back to the community. It only went to show that there are many aspects of PAC that many are never aware of.

Other pieces to note during the performance were "What Really Happened to Giselle?" which consisted of eight dancers, all dressed in white except for one dressed in black, who appeared and danced like fleeting specters surrounding a black magician.

The performance was highly theatrical and terrifying in its beauty and dancing while strobe lights and fog added to the creepy aura hanging about the stage.

The sensual duet "Lost" showcased a softer, more intimate side of the program and was like two souls struggling against each other to break free. It was passion and beauty.

The show quickly acquiesced through pieces displaying high-energy sultry dancing ("Red Hot"

by Three 6 Mafia) to pieces showing the elegance ("Follow Me" by Justin Nozuka) that the audience by this time had come to expect from the dancers in the show.

Overall, the show was an amazing blend of superior choreography, fantastic lighting and stage direction, and most of all, the creation of beautiful performance art. Jillian Guido, senior and fourth year PAC and dance team member, choreographed "Lost." She noticed that this year's Big Show is different from past years in that many new dancers were used.

"We have for the first time a lot of new people showcasing their talents. In the past we have used freshman, but we normally used more experienced dancers. This year we are really trying to use the new talent," Guido said.

Suzanne Lewis and Jennifer Rokasky, key choreographers and PAC alumni, noticed that this year's show was a step forward and up from their past shows.

"I thought it was very strong," said Lewis. "I've been around for a lot of Big Shows and this one

was very strong."

"I'm very impressed," said Rokasky. "Big Show has gone through fluctuations and it has gone up and down in numbers. It is a great turnout and there is a lot of talent."

Keep on the lookout for dates of PAC's spring Small Show and Big Show to support a program of this school which does not get the attention it deserves.



Image courtesy of Performing Arts Club

Members of the Performing Arts Club strike an aggressive pose before their November 23 show.

The Wait Is Over

Guns N' Roses Finally Releases 'Chinese Democracy'

Unlike Iraqi democracy, "Chinese Democracy" by ELIOT HAGEN
Staff Writer

works. It has its faults, but with it being in the pipeline for over a decade, there was no way that it could've met all of our expectations. It's not a revolutionary album, but it's an excellent set of tracks to bring Guns N' Roses back onto the scene.

A caveat, however: this doesn't sound a lot like the Guns N' Roses we knew. There are times when songs here bring to mind some of their classics, but the band has expanded their musical horizons, incorporating everything from jazz and blues influences to funk and grunge.

There are a few moments in a few songs where you'll think for a

second that you're listening to Nirvana or Korn, but, apart from that, the album has its own unique sound.

It's not avant-garde or experimental, though. It abides by several conventions of the rock genre while taking enough liberties in terms of composition and tone to keep the listener interested.

The album starts out with the explosive titular track, a solid tune perfect for headbanging and an exclamation that Guns N' Roses are back. It's followed by "Shackler's Revenge," an interesting song with a somewhat annoying chorus. The drumming and bass is good, punctuating the verses, but the chorus sounds very nasal.

"Better," another single, starts out with a drum machine and a falsetto Axl Rose before flourishing into his signature voice and a contagious riff. Then comes "Street of

Dreams," a song that seems to be channeling "November Rain" from the outset.

It has its own sound, though, and is definitely one of the strongest tracks on the entire album with good lyrics and the right balance of piano and guitar.

"If The World," the third single of the album, is another keeper. The fusion of funk guitar with latin and middle-eastern sound and traditional GNR makes for a good listen.

The next track, "There Was A Time," has some pretty cool sounding percussion but the song is plagued by a horrible chorus that is, thankfully, only repeated a few times. Otherwise, it's good, mixing light guitar with a choral backing.

"Catcher In The Rye," a song whose

meaning is obvious to anyone who has read the book or the poem from which it derives its name, is good, save for...you guessed it...the chorus. It seems to grate on one's ears, bringing down an otherwise adequate song.

"Scrapped" sounds weird, shifting from a run-of-the-mill chorus to excellent verses played along by guttural, muscular riffs and Axl's voice.

It starts out uninspired, but it gets there if you give it some time. The next track is rather nondescript. It's really just filler between tracks eight and 10. But it's good filler.

"Sorry," one of the best songs on the album, has Rose singing with former Skid Row frontman Sebastian Bach. This track is lyrically the strongest and it'll get stuck in



Image courtesy of myspace.com

your head even after the first listen.

Following that ballad we have more filler. "I.R.S." is a typical rock song that forges no paths and blazes no trails. "Madagascar" is your classic protest song complete with spoken words from Dr. Martin Luther King while "This I Love" is a heartfelt ballad free from distorted guitars and percussion and inspired by the entrancingly beautiful Anna Karenina.

The closing song, "Prostitute," suffers where the majority of the other tracks shine. The verses are accompanied by lackluster synth drumming that bring to mind hip-hop and rap. While that kind of thing is passable as a lead-in, I don't want it clogging up what should be hard rock. It's one of the weakest songs on the album in that it was misplaced.

I believe it would have been more appropriate to have a track similar to the opening if only to bookend the album between two strong points.

From the performance perspective, I couldn't be happier. Yes, the absence of Slash is felt but the presence of Buckethead is felt as well. In many ways he's far more appropriate for the newer direction the band is taking, as it drifts away from conventional structures. In addition to that, Rose's voice is as powerful as ever.

On the whole, you can't go wrong with this. It's a good album. For all its faults, it has several excellent songs that will burrow themselves in your brain and refuse to leave for several days. It might take a few listens, but even fans of the old GNR will grow to like, or at least not hate, their newest endeavor.



Image courtesy of myspace.com

Features



Erin Hoesly/Bullet

Megan McDonough and Annie Gerlach helped the Fashion International Club gather clothes for the Brisben Shelter.

Fashion Struggles to Give

Fashion International President Megan McDonough faced a surprising problem when donating clothes to Thurman Brisben Homeless Shelter.

The donations were rejected.

Over the past few weeks, Fashion International

By ERIN HOESLY
Staff Writer

organized a campus-wide clothing drive to help the homeless in the Fredericksburg community. McDonough, senior, and Vice President Maliha Adams, junior, considered several shelters in the area before choosing to donate to Thurman Brisben Homeless Shelter.

"They were anxious for donations," Adams said.

Kim Lally from Brisben Shelter shared why.

"With the weakened economy our financial contributions are down by 40 percent and our need for assistance is up almost 20 percent," Lally said.

Adams spoke previously with Lally who was excited for the help from the Mary Washington community.

"We usually receive more volunteer assistance than out of hand donations," Brisben Center's Kim Lally said.

After speaking with Lally, Fashion International thought they had made

the right choice in choosing Thurman Brisben as their donations recipient.

"They were open to anything we could donate," Adams said. As long as the items were gently worn with "nothing graphic," Adams was under the impression that Thurman Brisben would be happy to receive it.

Thurman Brisben also had a need that the UMW community could satisfy.

"I asked [Thurman Brisben] who frequented their shelter and they said adult males," Adams said, meaning adult male winter clothes was the most needed item during the course of the drive.

It was also convenient that Brisben shelter needed primarily adult clothing.

"Students would probably have to go home to get children's clothes," Adams shared, so collecting adult clothes was a bit easier.

McDonough and Adams said that they have received plenty of donations from both boxes around the residence halls and from faculty. McDonough said that some faculty members have donated large bags full of unwanted clothes. Adams said that her dorm room became overrun with donations gathered around campus.

Fashion International's role in the drive went beyond simply collecting

the items.

"We definitely had to wash and prepare everything before we donated," Adams said.

McDonough and a friend personally went to Thurman Brisben with the donations.

However, McDonough found out that not all Thurman Brisben employees were as helpful as Lally was.

"I called [Thurman Brisben] last Thursday to let them know I was coming the next day and that I was delivering a lot of clothes," McDonough said. "The woman kind of acted like she was doing me a favor."

McDonough said she called fifteen minutes prior to driving to Thurman Brisben with a van full of clothes to donate. When she arrived at the shelter a different employee gave her a shock.

"She just told me flat out that they're not accepting any donations," McDonough said. "She said their donation room was completely full."

McDonough wondered if this was helpful to the people who stay at the Thurman Brisben shelter.

"I don't know why the clothes are just sitting in a room," McDonough said. "I'm kind of confused [as to] why they're not giving them to the homeless."

McDonough then had to make a de-

cision for the mass of clothes that were piled in a borrowed van but now here to be donated.

"By the time we had all the clothes in the car it was 6 p.m. and we didn't have very many options," McDonough said.

She called the number of a shelter in downtown Fredericksburg, but was unable to speak with anyone.

"We didn't really think of plan b or plan c because we really didn't think we needed to have those," McDonough said.

Soon, McDonough found a solution.

"We ended up going to Goodwill and they gladly took them."

McDonough says the important thing is that the clothes are going to people who need them. But she is still confused by what happened at Thurman Brisben.

"I couldn't believe that they were rejecting donations," she said.

Despite this obstacle, Fashion International plans to hold more clothing drives in the future.

"We want to make it biannual and have it every semester, and have a drive for spring clothes and winter clothes," Adams said.

Grads Work Toward Goals

The most recent student retention rate for UMW students was 76 percent. Out of the 840 freshmen that enrolled at the University in the fall of 2001, 638 of those students graduated from UMW within six years. *U.S. News & World Report* has recognized UMW for having one of the highest retention rates in the region.

Many of alumni from the university, that many of the current students are familiar with, have moved on to greater fulfilling careers and experiences.

Shin Fujiyama, a graduate from the class of 2007 and a very active student during his years at UMW, is working towards establishing himself in the working world.

"I am currently self-employed by the nonprofit company I started called Students Helping Honduras Inc.," Fujiyama said.

To raise money for his main focus, helping orphans from Honduras, he organized a community-wide walk-a-thon and gained much outside support from foundations and students along this way. He has since expanded his goals toward helping many deserving people of South America.

However, it was not his nonprofit company that he solely relied on after his graduation. His studies at UMW gave him the opportunity to choose between a couple of options.

"I took the MCAT and was ready to apply to medical school but decided to postpone that because I saw the potential that SHH had to offer."

Subsequently, his decision took him far and he can proudly say that the Students Helping Honduras Inc. is now "one of the fastest growing student-based nonprofits in the U.S."

"I couldn't have asked for a better job, despite the difficulties of living in a developing country," Fujiyama said. "I am learning so much every day. I would hate to be in a cubicle in an office building, saving up just to buy a big house and nice car. Life is short so I would like to live out my dreams."

Fujiyama is grateful for his time spent at UMW and the lessons he

See WORKING, page 8 ▶

Brawl at the Nest

By STACY KESER
Staff Writer

There was a poetry brawl Nov. 20 during Late Night at the Nest—between two poets.

It was a very intense, but friendly competition between Max Samsky and Taja Winston, junior. Poetry has been and is part of both their lives, it is not only their talent, but their passion as well.

Samsky has written poetry since he was 13 years old. He started off writing short stories, but soon realized his interest was more focused in poetry.

"I used to write short stories, but never seemed to get past the first couple of pages, so I just decided to stick with writing poetry," Samsky said.

He writes based on his own experiences mostly, but sometimes creates stories on his own and writes on that as well.

"I do write on personal experiences, but sometimes I create an image in my head and write on that," Samsky said. "Sometimes when I write, it just happens."

He likes to experiment with different styles of poetry so that it is more unique and original.

"I write a lot from the unconscious point of view, which I know it is sometimes hard for people to understand it because of that, but I like to experiment with different styles and themes."

Samsky does not have a lot of experience reading poetry to the public. The Nest poetry brawl was not his usual act.

"The poetry brawl was a bit of a rarity for me. I didn't read any of my super personal poems. I tried to generalize them so that people could relate to what I was reading."

Samsky felt that the competition was good and enjoyed himself very much. It was exciting for him. Although it was late night, so he was a little frustrated with the noise level, but still had fun and admires Winston's poetry.

"Over all, I

thought it was close and a good match and it was exciting I like listening to others," Stasky said. "Late Night as expected was a bit loud, so it was frustrating because I do want people to listen, but I just tried to stay focus and have fun with it."

Winston was the other competitor at the poetry brawl. Like Samsky, she also has a passion for poetry and drama.

She started writing in 2nd grade and started out writing short stories

See POETS, page 8 ▶

*"Poetry is the voice in
the back of your throat,
waiting to be let go"*
-from Raja Winston's "Silence"



Sarah Delaney/Bullet



Sarah Delaney/Bullet

Burg's Furry Friends

The Fredericksburg SPCA is one of 250 no-kill shelters in the U.S. Read an article about the organization online at umwbullet.com

For more information, contact the Fredericksburg Regional SPCA at: www.fburgspca.org or 540-373-9008



Sadie Hagberg/Bullet

CERT program participants endured 8-week emergency, medical, and safety training.

Ready for Disaster

After enduring eight weeks of medical and safety training, participants in the CERT program were faced with the ultimate disaster.

"We took everything we learned and made a mock disaster," said Robert

By **SADIE HAGBERG**
Staff Writer

Parker, the Institutional Fire Safety Officer. The University of Mary Washington just finished its first Community Emergency Response Team program through a grant from the Fredericksburg Fire Department. This program, which was free for students, prepares and certifies participants to respond to a variety of disasters when professional responders aren't on the scene.

"It was a significant commitment but the skills and the official certification were well worth it," participant and senior Fenwick Gilroy said.

For eight weeks, 16 participants made up of students, faculty, and members of the Fredericksburg Community met in Combs Hall on Sunday nights and were trained in skills such as basic medical triage, light search and rescue,

and fire safety. The group was trained to be able to respond to a variety of disasters, from earthquakes and wildfires to hurricanes and floods.

"The skills that we learned during the CERT class will help us to actually be productive in case of a disaster situation," junior Lauren Spangler said.

"There is never enough emergency personnel during a disaster," Parker said, who assisted in the training. He taught fire safety, light search and rescue, and co-instructed disaster medical.

This nationally recognized program was offered once before in the Fredericksburg area, but was just recently brought back.

"It not only gets the community involved, but the students involved," Parker said.

Participants are encouraged to use what the skills they have learned within their community in the event of a disaster.

"The CERT team is deployed when emergencies happen where fire, police, or EMS squads may not be readily available. [We] perform tasks that would allow professional rescuers to spend more time with more advanced tasks," freshman James Larounis said.

"Although we hope to never have to use the skills we learned, it helped to learn what to do in a disaster situation so that we can stay calm and help out as best we can," Spangler said.

Through book work and practical training the participants were kept busy for the eight weeks of training.

"My favorite portion was the disaster scenarios where we got to simulate an accident and then respond," Larounis said.

"The hands on practice kept us on our toes and made sure we had to knowledge to get the job done," Gilroy said.

The final scenario brought all the skills together in a simulated snow storm. With dummies as the victims, participants worked as a team to put everything they had learned to use.

At the program's conclusion, each participant was given an emergency tools bag with everything they may need to assist in a disaster.

"Many people think their only resource is 911," Larounis said.

Parker said that he hopes that more classes such as these will be offered to the community next semester.

'Suns' is Splendid

Book Review

Set against the backdrop of turbulent Afghanistan, Khaled Hosseini's highly acclaimed novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns* details the lives of two

Afghan women, Mariam and Laila, and their journey to live a life that is truly their own in a time of chaos and confusion in their country.

If you are looking for a book that is going to protect you from the world, this is not a good choice. But if you are not afraid to be confronted with some of the world's ugly and unjust truths which are paralleled with a world of love and hope, then you should give it a try.

It is a wonderful story that sends a powerful and important message. The book is filled with hate, love, violence, loss, and hope.

Mariam was the child of a wealthy business owner and his house worker. She spends her early years struggling to gain the affections of her father, who comes to visit her once a week. That is until she realized that her father does not recognize her as his child and responsibility, and marries her off to a much older man in Kabul.

Laila has a much different childhood from Mariam. She comes from a home where she is much loved by her father, and an upset and distracted mother who spends most of her time fretting over her two sons who are away at war. When the fighting in Kabul results in tragedy, Laila is pushed headfirst into Mariam's life and makeshift family.

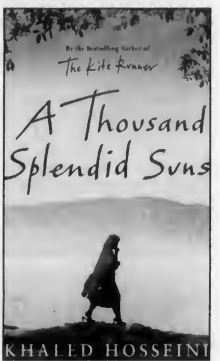
Together Mariam and Laila attempt to etch out some level of normalcy in their lives while trying to cope with life under the control and abuse of their husband, Rasheed. Throughout their struggles the two women become close friends and begin to raise a family.

This well written and moving novel is one that should be at the top of everyone's "must read" list. It is a story

of hope and inspiration set in a time of war, where these feelings are rarely seen. The story helps the readers gain a deeper understanding into the lives of oppressed women in Kabul. Hosseini's descriptive and detailed writings help the reader to visualize and relate to the story and the characters experiences. For example, one can feel Laila's horror as she looks up after her house has been bombed, to see her father's headless torso next to her.

Though many people have some knowledge about Islamic culture, and about the effects of the Taliban on people, and the lifestyle of a female in Islam, the book effectively refutes common misconceptions that all middle-eastern people are terrorists or associated with radical groups such as the Taliban.

The book brings awareness to the reader of the lives women lived while under the rule of the Taliban. This book makes that form of ignorance and apathy unreal. When a story such as this unfolds the reader connects with the characters. They are hurt when these women are mistreated. Hosseini's strength as a writer, especially in the area of character impact and development, makes this novel truly impressive and inspirational.



Working Class

4 GRADS, page 7

learned as a student.

"I learned to set goals and relentlessly pursue them at UMW and that is the most important characteristic that the nonprofit world demands," he said. "I also met so many amazing people who are now fighting alongside me for the cause. I couldn't have done this without my friends from UMW."

Fujiyama has high expectations for the work he does with Students Helping Honduras Inc.

"Since the day I saw boys in an orphanage without shoes and twelve year old girls in the streets prostituting themselves in Honduras, I have been on a mission. My role is to shake things up so that people from our generation can unleash their potential to help kids that need it most."

Wendy Lindner graduated from Mary Washington in the year 2007 as well. She majored in Psychology, and as soon as she graduated, she went to grad school at Marymount University. She will graduate in May 2009.

"I started grad school at Marymount University in Arlington, working towards my M.A. in School Counseling," she said. I work part-time at a bank to earn spending money."

She does not fully enjoy working at the bank, but enjoys her internship and hopes to work there for good.

"I do enjoy my internship at an elementary school. This will be my 'real' job eventually and I love going to the school and seeing the kids everyday!" Her internship involves working directly with the children in an elementary school.

She does miss Mary Washington, but is ready to be out of school.

"I will say that I miss Mary Wash a lot," she said. "I am ready to be done being a student though. I think it will be great to have a Monday through Friday job next year, instead of doing school-work all the time. But I did love my undergrad experience, mostly because of

the friends I made, and I miss it, and them, everyday."

Emily Nicotera graduated from the University of Mary Washington in 2007. She now works for IBM at an office in Springfield. She is a consultant on the US Postal Service project. She measures the delivery performance of the USPS and makes recommendations for performance improvement.

"The project is one of IBM's largest public sector (i.e. related to the fed gov't) contracts - very high profile. The test results that we provide to the client (Consumer Affairs Dept of USPS) are reported in The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, and CNN."

Nicotera feels that a lot of her job is routine, which can get dull at times. However, she does enjoy the traveling.

"I'm hoping for a trip to Hawaii, Guam, or Puerto Rico, however I'm really excited right now because I am traveling to California for the month of December, which should be fun," she said.

"I will probably stay on this particular contract through May at least," she said. "It's a lucrative business and one of the best kinds of jobs in the Washington DC Metropolitan Area."

Kathryn Horner graduated from MWC back in 1966 and majored in math. She got a decent job right out of college and enjoyed it for the most part.

"Right out of college I was a System Engineer for IBM, but I am now retired."

"For last 30 years worked for a software development company, designing software for financial institutions."

She enjoyed her time at MWC and still holds close friendships with the people from college.

"After 40+ years, it is hard to remember — I certainly enjoyed my 4 years at MWC and still enjoy the friendships that started there. Thinking back I am sure that I was ready to tackle the working world and move on," she said.

This Week In Town

Friday December 5

Midnight Spaghetti and the Chocolate G-Strings

The two bands make their debut at Hard Times 4 Mile Fork 10 p.m.

Cost: \$5
5099D Jefferson Davis Highway

Brady Earnhart and Rebecca Maxon

Acoustic guitar, vocals, and cello
7:30 p.m. at the Griffin Bookstore and Coffee Shop
Cost: Free
723 Caroline St.

Holiday Hayride

1:00, 2:30, and 4:00 p.m.
Cost: \$3
Caledon Natural Area 11617 Caledon Rd.

Festival of Trees

Display of over 130 decorated trees for auction. Also wreaths, mini trees and a gift boutique, lunch and afternoon tea along with fashion shows
Cost: \$7
Fredericksburg Expo & Conference Center
2371 Carl D. Silver Pkwy

Saturday December 6

21st Annual Fredericksburg Jaycees Christmas Parade

Local marching bands, majorette and cheer groups, along with other local organizations march down Caroline St. and Princess Anne St.
5:30 p.m. Cost: Free
Downtown Fredericksburg

Performing Poetry

4 BRAWL, page 7

as well. She began to create these stories that got shorter and shorter, only to realize as she got older that these were actually poems and really got into it after that.

Winston, who has performed at Nuyorican Cafe in New York City, was actually more nervous about the UMW poetry.

"I was so nervous. My hands were shaking, she said. "I am fine with performing in front of people I do not know, but it was definitely a change doing this in front of people I know."

She agrees with Max that the noise

at the poetry brawl was a little frustrating.

"The noise at the nest was somewhat frustrating, Winston said. "But then I looked up and saw people that were feeling my poetry, and it inspired me and kept me going."

Taja really enjoys the inspiration aspect of poetry. It is her passion, and to have the ability and the power to inspire and touch people is very important to her.

"There could be 100 people I read my poetry to, and if I could inspire at least one of those 100 people, it would absolutely be worth it." I want to inspire and change people's lives."

As much as Taja has loved poetry, it has not been easy to pursue this dream of hers. She doubted herself at first, and her parents were a bit skeptical with her pursuing a drama career, so she took business courses instead. But she knew that's not what she wanted.

"It was hard, because my parents did not want me to get into drama. But I decided to go for it anyway because it was my passion. I mean I love to inspire, it is what I want to do."

"Do what you believe in. Follow your dreams, my parent didn't want it, but I did it anyway and love every second of it."

News

Position Created to Oversee Police

By LONDON JAMES
Staff Writers

UMW officials are considering three finalists for a new administrative position that will oversee the university police department and coordinate security on the Fredericksburg and Stafford campuses, as well as the Dahlgren property. They anticipate offering the job to one of the finalists some time in the next couple of weeks.

The new executive director of university police and security services will provide direct supervision over campus police Chief James Snipes, and will in turn report to Susan Knick, assistant vice president for public safety and community services.

"I have been asking for this position since I took over," Knick said. "I saw a need for one individual that would have an overarching responsibility of University campuses and properties." Snipes did not respond to requests for comment.

Knick said the opportunity to create the new position occurred when Lt. Dave Cooper left the university police in May 2008.

The school took the funding that originally went toward Cooper's position and applied it to the new executive director hire.

Knick said the University will not be hiring a new lieutenant.

"We made the decision to reorganize and absorb that vacancy into the new executive director of police and security services position. The job description and related materials was drafted over the summer and we opened the recruitment on August 26, 2008," Knick said in an email.

There are currently four police sergeants and five police officers at the Fredericksburg campus in addition to

Snipes. The school is also hiring two additional officers to beef up campus patrols.

Executive Vice President Richard Hurley said he feels that the new position will increase the professionalism of the campus police department.

"We want to reorganize to use the staff in a different way," he said.

The interviewing process for the job began Tuesday, Nov. 11 and has since been narrowed down from 32 applicants to three. Information on the final candidates is not available to the public.

Knick said the target starting date for the new position is Dec. 1, but realistically the position will not be fully active until January 2009.

The new position is a classified position which means the pay range is between \$40,959 and \$84,062; however, the University has restricted the funding to not exceed \$65,000 according to Knick.

"With the University's growth and the expressed concerns of the student body, security needs and challenges have expanded," Knick said. "To best meet the security needs of our community we recognize that a full time senior law enforcement position is needed for the efficient and comprehensive oversight of the expanded needs throughout the University."

According to Knick, UMW will be the only Virginia state school that currently has this position on their police force.

"In my opinion, this places UMW on the forefront of public safety development at the planning and policy level and speaks highly of UMW's commitment to providing the best possible security available within our resources," she said.

the Bullet Online

Expanded Online Edition

Check out these stories and more exclusively online at umwbulet.com:

"Mary Washington Professor Deserves Praise"

An editorial by Farrah Tek

"Two Students Charged for Fall Break Incident"

Stefanie Roche for News

"Parking Violation Fees High at UMW"

Brianne Benelli for News

"Fredericksburg SPCA Helps Furry Friends"

Sarah Delaney for Features

Minors Delayed

◀ MINORS page 1

tion." Each department would be able to choose between designing its own minor programs and continuing to only offer majors. These provisions would enable the departments to best serve the needs of its students.

"We want to give departments as much liberty as possible to create the minor of their dreams," French professor and AAC Chairman Scott Powers said in the Senate meeting.

"I think that student demand will play a major role in how many departments offer minors," Hubbard said.

Another objection to minors was the concern that students' academic studies would be too constricted if minor requirements were added to the other prescribed goals.

"After completing their general education courses, major programs and minor programs, students would have few credits left to allocate to electives," Associate Professor of Biology and AAC member Andrew Dolby said.

However, the new and more flexible 2008 general education curriculum would give students greater freedom to combine major, minor and elective requirements.

"Our current understanding is that many students still wish for the option to pursue minors to gain expertise in disciplines outside their majors," Dolby said.

The Senate vote is expected to take place in January, giving senators more time to discuss minors with their departments.

"I personally believe that President Hamble's vocal support for minors will be essential in convincing the majority of the faculty to support this motion," Hubbard said.

Student Required to Move Out of House



Three of the four roommates in front of their home on Morningside Drive. Left to right: Seniors David Rodriguez, Daniel McLaughlin and Tait Keenan

◀ HOUSE, page 1

home.

According to Bledsoe, officers broke up the party and returned the next morning to question the residents. At that time, police say Rodriguez, one of the residents, admitted that four people lived in the house.

Bledsoe said that neighbors had been complaining for some time about the students, and she said Fredericksburg police considered the residence a "party house and consistent nuisance to the neighborhood."

Warren Carman, the students' next-door neighbor, said the students' house is definitely a party house.

Carman told the *Free-Lance Star* that mail delivery stopped at his house because overflow cars parked on the street around the house's driveway blocked the mailman and his truck.

Carman said Morningside Drive is a quiet, residential street that simply cannot handle over 10 parked cars outside one house.

Zoning Officer Debra Ward inspected the house after the police visit. When she first approached the residents on Sept. 5, she reported that another of

the residents, McLaughlin, told her that there were only three people living there, contradicting what Rodriguez had told police.

Ward said she found what looked like to be a house full of people: three furnished bedrooms and four couches throughout the house, two with sleeping bags.

Ward said the residents told her that the sleeping bags were for their dogs.

While Rodriguez's comments to police in August are important, Ward said there are other ways to help prove illegal occupancy. She counts toothbrushes, observes the number of parked cars, and notes the amount of trash produced from a house.

She collected this information at the house in question, and the results, she said, were convincing.

"In my professional opinion, there were more than three people living there," she said.

According to Fredericksburg law, the punishment for this living situation is a fine up to \$500.

One of the residents is required by law to move out.

Diversity Committee Approved

By SARAH SMITH and
ALEX JAFFEE
Staff Writers

After two years of debate, the Student Senate passed a constitutional amendment to instate the Diversity and Unity Coordinating Committee which will be added to the executive branch if passed by a campus-wide vote.

The Diversity and Unity Coordinating Committee (DUCC) will act on behalf of the student body in the event of diversity-related incidents on campus. Additionally it will serve as a representative of diversity-seeking organizations within the Student Government Association.

"What's important about adding it to the constitution is that it gets a vote in the executive board," said sophomore and Co-Chair of the Constitutional Order Committee Taylor Wilson.

DUCC will be required to host at least one event in an effort to bring diversity-seeking organizations together. Also, DUCC will facilitate a community service project to better the campus environment or surrounding neighbor-

hoods.

2007 UMW graduate and former SGA President Jay Sinha started the movement to create a Diversity Committee as part of the student government. According to Sinha, UMW is the only school other than Virginia Military Institute that does not have a diversity component in the student government.

Sinha hoped to foster unity not only between racial and ethnic minorities but also between different gender and sexual groups.

The DUCC's first objective was to give the students a venue where they could bring up diversity issues. While there are student organizations that address issues from food to parking, there has been no student advocate in the department of diversity.

"Technically you could go to residence life, but what if a student felt like the school wronged them. The DUCC could lobby for students on diversity issues," Sinha said.

Sinha's additional goals for the DUCC were to help groups coordinate efforts toward diversity promotion and to catch up with the rest of Virginia's

schools to keep UMW competitive.

Sinha encountered significant opposition when he proposed the DUCC to the Senate in 2006.

"Some people just didn't think it was a student government issue... We had a long and very tense argument about what the DUCC should be," said Sinha.

The matter was resolved when the DUCC voted into existence on a trial basis.

"DUCC was passed and approved as an ad-hoc committee. That designation has since expired. However a DUCC Chair (Natalie Weiner) was elected in the campus-wide elections in March. I have since appointed her to serve as an adviser to SGA on diversity," said SGA President Sean O'Brien.

This year's senators, including Wilson, collected 410 student signatures to approve a Senate vote on a Constitutional amendment.

If students vote to support the addition of DUCC to the SGA, the committee will be composed of an executive chairperson, vice-chairperson, treasurer, secretary, and communications chairperson.

Security Increased in Parking Garage

◀ SECURITY, page 2

parking deck assault a "wake up call" for students.

"I have always felt that this school was safe and would never have believed that an incident that horrifying could occur on our campus," said Cruise. "But unfortunately it did and it shows that even though we are at school, we are not completely safe. Coming from someone who does not have a car, it is definitely a different feeling walking along campus alone at night."

Cruise, who works on campus twice a week, is more alert about her surroundings when walking on campus at night.

"I do not have that protected feeling I use to have while walking on campus," she said. "I must say it is really sad that even on a college campus in

Senior Mallory Cruise called the

From Pam Lowery, Associate Director of User Services for the Dept. of Information Technology:

Due to technical issues with the newly installed e-mail system, forwarding of mail from students

@umw.edu addresses to the new @mail.umw.edu addresses will be suspended until further notice.

It is recommended that students continue to use their old address until the problem is resolved.

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—The Bullet

Sports



Equestrian Team To Host Regional Tournament

After a stellar season, the University of Mary Washington's equestrian team will be participating in the Tournament of Champions this weekend, which will take place in Painesville, Ohio. The top 25 teams in the nation will be invited, including any team ranked first in their region. In five meets this year, the equestrian team has racked up three first-place finishes and one second-place finish.

By GINNY BOYKO
Staff Writer

This is only the second year that UMW has participated in the tournament. Very competitive teams including Mount Holyoke College, Virginia Intermont and University of Kentucky will be there. Last year UMW placed ninth out of the 26 teams invited.

"[Teams] that did really well at Nationals last year will be there [this year]," Coach Beth Boteler said.

Only eight members of the team are invited to go, one rider for each division. UMW will be taking seven riders because senior rider Jessica Van-Brocklin will be riding in both the open over fences and open on the flat competitions.

"I hope I'll do well but it'll be much more challenging," freshman Marina Frano said. "It'll be pretty tough because the other teams also had to do really well to get there."

Along with the Tournament of Champions, the team is also gearing up for regionals, which will be held at the University of Richmond in March. To get to regionals, a rider has to point out of their division. This means that the rider has to gain 35 points in their division (open riders only have to gain 28).

Points, which carry over from previous years, are earned through the top performers in events. A rider receives seven points for first place, five points for second, three points for fourth, and one point for fifth and sixth.

Once a rider gains 35 point they advance to regionals where they compete against everybody else in their region who has also pointed out. The top three riders at regionals earn a spot at Zones. Riders Shannon Brown and Sarah Leavitt have already pointed out of their divisions.

The Zone Championship Show, which will be held here at UMW, will take place in April. The competitions are held at individual and team levels and the top two zone riders will go on to Nationals.

"I think that'll be awesome," freshman Katherine Bartkowiak said. "It'll be a lot of work to get all the horses ready."

Bartkowiak, who has competed in one show in which she finished fifth, said she enjoyed her experience because she was not a point rider so it took some of the pressure off. Senior Kelsey Teeters is also excited for Zones.

"We'll spend hours at a time getting the farm ready for the show," Teeters said. "The advantage is that we don't have to travel far and we'll know the horses we're riding better."

Since UMW is hosting the show they are responsible for preparing everything. Horses will have to be clipped, groomed, the mane pulled, and suited with the right tack. Jumps will also have to be painted and decorated.

The UMW riders are also looking forward to advancing to Nationals. Last year UMW placed seventh in the national team competition.

"I think we definitely have a chance," Bartkowiak said. "It depends on the luck of the draw, but if we go we'll definitely do well."

Of the four shows that will take place next semester, UMW will be hosting two. Depending on how well the team does, they could be going to Nationals for the second year in a row, but no matter what the team is staying confident.

"I know we'll make it," Teeters said.

Sullivan Finds Comfort Zone In Division III Cross-Country

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pointed co-captain, Sullivan said that her job ended up not as difficult as she expected.

"I had never been the number one runner on a team before, so I was kind of nervous," she said. "The entire team has been such a tight knit group, more than it ever has been."

Sullivan's season progressed well, finishing as the number one D-III finisher in many of her races and usually in the mix of D-I schools. She said that her first collegiate 6K was about 24 minutes and her most recent was 22 minutes and nine seconds, almost a two minute improvement.

Sullivan dominated the Capital Athletic Conference home meet with her first place finish of 22:53, a full minute and twenty three second gap ahead the next competitor. At the South/Southeast region meet in Seguin, Texas she placed fifth with a 22:31.

Then, as the only Eagle to qualify for Nationals, Sullivan completed her season strong with a 64th place finish and a time of 22:09 among a field of 279 of the nation's fastest D-III runners. Sullivan was 25 seconds away from earning All-American honors and produced a new 5K personal record of 18:31.

Overall, Sullivan's honors from this past cross country season are All-CAC, CAC Champion, All-South/Southeast region, and six time CAC Runner of the Week, all while leading the UMW women's team to a successful season.

Sullivan says that going forward from cross



Courtesy of Clint Otten
This year as a captain, Sullivan is taking a role as a leader and new responsibilities.

country in 2008, she has once again raised her goals to see what she can let out on the track as well as contribute to winning a sixteenth consecutive CAC Track and Field title.

Men's B-Ball Forced To Re-Tryout

The UMW men's basketball team has gotten off to a slow start on their season, losing three out of their first four games. But that hasn't stop the players from having faith in one another.

By CALLI LOWERY
Staff Writer

"I believe now we are more focused than ever, with losing three in a row, we have a bad taste in our mouth that we want to get rid of," senior Matt Hale said. "We are a much better team than our record shows and we now know what needs to be done to win these games."

For Coach Rod Wood the hardest part was getting through to the men about what needs to be done to win games. Wood has done numerous tactics to get his player's attention. But just Monday, he put into effect his most recent tactic; opening up tryouts. The men now will have to re-tryout for their position on the team. The first round of cuts will be in three weeks, after the North Central College game.

"I don't want to cut anybody, I love all my boys, but nobody is pulling their weight," Wood said. "I have tried cutting their playing time and punishing them [by extra running] but it just goes in one ear and out the other."

After coming off of their losses, the men have

had a chance to see what they really are about and how to fix the problem. In preparation for the first home game against conference rivalry Hood College on Friday night, the team is focusing on the fundamentals: free throws, passing, defensive and offense.

"Hood always presents a challenge, they have a great coach and good players," Hale said. "Any conference game presents a challenge especially this year because there is more on the line with only six out of nine teams making the conference tournament."

Since practice started on October 15, Wood has been harping on them about practicing hard. The team is not developing the way he had planned so far. There has not been a high level practice physically or mentally since the first day and Wood be-

lieves everyone on the team has not been playing to the level they are capable.

"On Monday, after I told them about the new plan we had our best practice. I've been harping on them every day about playing on their levels," Wood said. "Hopefully, this has got their attention and motivated them into the right direction, individually and collectively."

All players are new to the succeeding or failing. The upperclassmen are new to this because in recent years, the team has been very successful and it was easy for them to make the transition. The freshmen are new to this type of play from high school. The players know where they need to be on an emotional and physical level and what they have to do to get there.

"I have raised the bar for my expectations based on my expertise and my professional opinion on where they need to be," Wood said. "I'm setting a standard for myself and for this basketball program and I expect everyone to meet those ex-

pectations. It's hard because I'm seeing potential in them and they are squandering it."

Talent has not been one of the problems for the team; it's a lack of the consistency in intelligence and in effort. The upperclassmen know the drills and plays of the game so they know what to do; it's putting it together on the court.

"We are working on increasing the intensity of our practices, while at the same time game planning for our opponents," junior Ben Stokes said. "By game planning we are trying to identify [the other team's] strengths and weaknesses."

The players weren't expecting Wood's new tactic but he is hoping it will motivate them. Even if the team loses some of their next couple games, Wood is hoping the men's intensity level will change if they really want to stay.

"Since nobody wants to be let off the team, I feel that this will motivate the guys," Stokes said. "I think with a little motivation we will be able to get ourselves out of this rut."

Hale agrees with Stokes in regards to wanting no one leaving the team.

"On this team we consider each other family, so with his new policy none of us want to see someone else leave," Hale said. "We are all in it together and we will make sure we finish out together without losing anyone."

“*I don't want to cut anybody, I love all my boys, but nobody is pulling their weight*”

—Coach Rod Wood

**Love sports but hate to sweat?
Toss your running shoes aside and write about it instead!**

Contact Joey Merkel
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Sports



Emily McAlpine/The Bulletin

Senior guard Katy Larson sets up the offense in Mary Washington's home opener against Washington and Lee. This year, Larson is averaging a little over eight points per game and leads the team in assists with 18.

Season Starts Hot For Women's Basketball

After kicking off the season with a scorching 5-0 start, the University of Mary Washington No. 18 women's basketball team is determined to keep its undefeated status.

By GINNY BOYKO
Staff Writer

After last night's game against Capital Athletic Conference foe Salisbury University (results too late to be reported), the Eagles won't have to wait long for their next big match-up.

This Friday, the women's team takes on another conference opponent in Hood College. Salisbury and Hood are a combined 2-11 on the year so it may not appear that the Eagles have too much of a challenge ahead of them, but this team knows better than to get too ahead of themselves.

"Statistically we should win," freshman Kathleen Russell said. "We should not underestimate the team and just play our game."

The team, along with Coach Deena Applebury, has been scouting both teams all week determining a solid game plan that will work toward the Eagles' advantage.

"Coach tries to prepare us one game at a time. We prepare for the upcoming game so we don't get a head of ourselves," Russell said. "You don't want to over look a team and not play to the best of your ability."

After last season's success, this year the

team is hoping to better themselves even further. Last year the Eagles went to the NCAA Championships losing in the round of 16 after a

“We can look up to the seniors to pick up the intensity

—Kathleen Russell

28-3 season that earned them their third conference title in the last four years.

The current season looks to be just as promising even after losing all but one of their starting five from last year, including center Liz Hickey who recently had her jersey retired by the school. This year the key to a great season is going to be the team's depth.

"If someone's not playing well, there's always someone else to step up and play," Russell said.

This year the coach has been able to consis-

tently been able to play nine players. With an unselfish team, there have been plenty of games in which freshmen have risen to the occasion and made significant efforts.

"Whoever has the 'hot hand' scoring wise, we keep feeding them the ball," Russell said.

With five players that have already played in a final four, it seems like a realistic goal for the team this year, and the team won't be satisfied with anything less. With the way this team plays it's obvious they want to go as far as they know they are capable of going.

"When we come to practice and games we work our hardest," Russell said. "Coach has high expectations. She tells us how much skill and potential we have."

The women are just as compatible off the court as they are on it. Russell says that a nice aspect of being part of the team is that everyone is like sisters; very accepting and that they all get along, which makes for a greater cohesion. The comradeship will make the loss of the three seniors next year that much harder.

"When we're not necessarily playing too well we can look up to the seniors to pick up the intensity," Russell said. "The seniors are such good leaders."

But before the season is over the team has a lot to look forward to, including a tournament in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. The tournament will take place over winter break. There, UMW will play Montclair State College and Randolph-Macon College.

Women's Tennis Ready For Spring

Most teams dream of being ranked nationally. But for the ladies tennis team, it's a reality. The ladies rank sixth in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association poll upon finishing their fall season.

Even though the ladies only had three tournaments in the fall, as a warm up for

the spring season.

"We did very well in all events during the fall," Coach Patrick Catullo said. "We had a good mix of the upper-class and freshmen which leads to forecast a very good spring season."

Although the spring season is a month and a half away, the team took the opportunity during the fall to improve their game including controlling different points, knowing when to come to the net and when to take a risk. The fall season also helped the coaches to take a look at different line ups to see what fits best and to find out the teams strengths and weaknesses.

"The difference in the two seasons is that the spring is longer and definitely more intense," Catullo said. "It's nice to have the fall because we set up double teams and we get a chance to look at the personnel and see what we can play around with."

Besides preparing during the fall, the girls take initiative on their own to work during the off-season. The girls work on making sure they stay physically fit by swimming laps in the pool, running or practicing against each other. When the spring season starts at the end of January the coaches fine tune their conditioning to make sure they are prepared for the season ahead.

"The girls do a fantastic job of keeping up during the off season so when spring starts we run through some basic training for the body," Catullo said. "We just condition where it needs to be and then jump right into working back up where we left off from the fall."

This fall the team accomplished more than usual during the season. Most times the double teams are decided in the spring but this year, the doubles teams were made in the fall.

"I'm very happy with doubles and all the way through the line up," Catullo said. "The level of comfort with the double teams are in a very good spot and that's very important for the spring season."

With the biggest class of freshman in quite some time, the coaches and upperclassmen are making sure they know this is a team effort. From high school the girls are used to the individual aspect but now it's about the team as a whole.

"Here we don't have premier players, everyone is treated the same," Catullo said. "We're always cheering on and off the court for the team and for the girls. Our number one focus is supporting the team."

For the freshmen it may seem to be a hard transition but with the upperclassmen's help it sure to get easier. There was a smooth transition for bonding between the mixtures of classes.

"We've got some good matches ahead and I'm ready to see the girls play to their best ability," Catullo said. "In the past seasons, we have come closer and closer to the national championship and this year that's our goal. We definitely have the ability to go that far. I'm looking forward to the season and being as successful as we can be."

Cross Country Star Races Through Nationals

It was during practice in high school when sophomore Hayley Sullivan learned of University of Mary Washington's interest in her as a cross-country runner.

By ANDREW KADA
Staff Writer

When her high school coach received an interest letter from UMW coach Stan Soper, he brought it to practice where one of Sullivan's equally impressive teammates assumed that the letter was for her. Soon after, Sullivan was given the letter and was excited that she had received interest. However, Sullivan says that she found it funnier that her teammate had assumed the letter had been for herself.

Sullivan said that her passion for running started at a young age.

"In the fifth grade, I really looked up to my teacher who was a runner and I broke the school record for the mile in the fourth grade," Sullivan said.

Ever since, despite playing varsity soccer for her high school and various select teams, she kept running her priority.

During high school, Sullivan earned All-District and All-Region honors on many occasions competing for her AAA Virginia School, Lake Braddock Secondary School. In Sullivan's sophomore year, she participated in the Foot Locker South Regional meet and earned All-South honors.

During Sullivan's junior year in high school, she contributed to her team placing fourth at the

AAA state cross-country meet and 2nd her senior year. Maybe one of Sullivan's most proud achievements of her high school career was 4x800 squad winning the 2006 AAA state title and breaking Lake Braddock's school record.

When she came to Mary Washington with its Division III athletics, she did so to keep time on her hands.

"I came to UMW because I didn't want run-

“I broke the school record for the mile in the fourth grade

—Hayley Sullivan

ning to take up everything even though it still does, but that's because I love it so much," stated Sullivan.

However, despite the time and dedication she puts into her work, she said her teammates make it worthwhile.

"I was excited that everyone was so cool," Sul-

livan said.

Looking back, Sullivan said she wasn't happy with her freshman cross-country season.

"When winter break came around, I was tired and knew I needed to take better care of myself and train harder," she said. "Coming back, I was in a lot better shape and got a lot stronger in track which was reflected in how much I improved in the mile."

Sullivan's personal records from her freshman track season were 5:10 for the mile and 4:44 for the 1500 meter.

Fueled by her improvements and reality of losing UMW's top two runners to graduation, Sullivan dove into her summer training for her sophomore cross country season.

"Working off my mileage in track, I did even more getting up to 55 miles per week. I also did more strength workouts and workouts on the track," Sullivan said. "Working by myself every day, if I was ever struggling, I tried to push myself even harder to get what I wanted, Nationals," Sullivan said.

Sullivan said that coming into the new season, she was a bit apprehensive to her new role. In spite of this, as a newly ap-



Courtesy of Andrew Kada

After a terrific season, Kayley Sullivan earned herself a trip to Nationals.